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"But would they not be happier for forgetting?"

"I do not think so," said the bishop, and, bowing low to her again, he stood back, for he saw the king approaching with the grand duke, and the king took him by the arm and walked on with him; but the king's face lost the brief pensiveness that had come upon it as she talked with the bishop, and, turning to her lover, she stretched out her hands to him, saying:

"I wish there was a cottage, and what you worked for bread, while I made ready for you at the cottage, and then ran far, far, down the road to watch and wait for your coming."

"Since a cottage was not too small, a palace will not be too large," said he, catching her in his arms.

Thus the heart of Princess Ostra found its haven and its rest; for a month later she was married in the grand duke of Mittelmheim in the cathedral of Stralsund, having utterly refused to take any other place for her wedding. And again she and he rode forth together through the western gates, and the king rode with him on their way till they came to the woods. Here he paused and all the crowd that accompanied him stopped also; and they all waited till the solemn depths of the glades hid Ostra and her lover from their sight. Then leaving them thus riding together to their happiness, the people returned home, sad for the loss of their darling princess. But, for consolation and that their minds might less feel her loss, they had her name often on their lips; and the poets and story tellers composed very many stanzas about her, not grounded on fact as are those which have been here set forth, but the fabric of life imagination, wrought to please the fancy of lovers, or to wake the memories of older folk. So that, if a stranger came now to Stralsund, he may be pardoned if it seem to him that all mankind was in love with Princess Ostra. Nay, and those who pass all fair, beautiful, as if you listen to them you would come near to believing that the princess also had found some love for all the men who had given her their love. Thus to many she is less a woman than a legend, and her name is some sweet image under whose name they fondly group all the virtues and the charms of her whom they love best, each man fashioning for himself from his own chosen model her whom he calls his princess. Yet it may be that for some of them who so truly loved her, her heart had a moment's fondness. Who shall tell all the short-lived dreams that came and went, the promptings and stirrings of a very great inclination? And who would try too closely into these secret matters? May we not more properly give thanks to heaven that the thing is so, it let for sure it makes greatly for the increase of joy and entertainment in the world, and of courtesy and tenderness that the heart of Princess Ostra, of what life you may choose, sir, to call by her name—should flutter in pretty hesitation here and there and to and fro a little, before it flies on a straight swift wing to its destined and desired home, and you be the prince for your princess, why, sir, your case is a sad one. Yet there is laughter as well as tears in the tune to which the world spins round.

But still a rule kindly in the vine And make a garden by the water flows.

Wear your willow, then, as the Marquis de Merveilles wore his lightly and yet most courteously—or wear it as some say the Bishop of Modenately wore one—with courage and self-mastery. That is—If you wear it, sir, you remember what the Miller of Bulfinch thought.

WHAT AN ACRE OF FRUIT CONTAINS.

As it is not generally known how much fertilizer a crop of fruit will receive from the soil, the following statement by Prof. J. W. Fields, of the Pennsylvania Experiment Station, is of interest.

An acre of apples, producing 360 bushels, removes from the soil 24 pounds of nitrogen, 2 pounds of phosphoric acid and 14 pounds of potash, all valued at \$5.24. An acre of pears, yielding 35 bushels, removes 16 pounds of nitrogen, 3 pounds of phosphoric acid and 14 pounds of potash, total value \$3.59. Grapes, harvesting 8,160 pounds per acre, contain 13 pounds nitrogen, 5 pounds of phosphoric acid, 22 pounds of potash, worth \$3.61. Of peaches, the report was not complete, but the yield per acre was 33 bushels, containing 8 pounds of phosphoric acid and 10 pounds of potash. These figures show plainly a preponderance of potash. Potash may be supplied in cotton-seed hull ashes and wood ashes, and bones and animal matter are also a valuable fruit fertilizer.

THINNING FRUITS.

It is seed-growing that exhausts the vitality, says H. J. Hale, the veteran peach-grower of Connecticut and Georgia. There are no more seeds in a large fruit than in a small one, and a large one doesn't take any more vitality out of a tree. If a Kieffer pear tree has on it 1,000 pears, and you take off 500 of them, the balance will weigh as much as the whole of them and bring more money without weakening the tree only half as much. Our rule for thinning peaches is not to leave one within four inches of another.

It is just as easy to try One Minute Cough Cure as anything else. It is easier to cure a severe cough or cold with it. Let your next purchase for a cough be One Minute Cough Cure. Better medicine, better results, better price. For sale by all druggists. Noiden-Judson wholesale dealers.

A QUEEN WHO CHEWS THE WEED

She is the Queer Ruler of Madagascar.

THE WAR WITH FRANCE

VERY LITTLE HEARD OF THE TROUBLESOME TIMES.

Cause of the War Which France is Now Waging Against Madagascar—Charges Made by the Hovas—A Dramatic Speech Recently Delivered to Fifty Thousand of Her Subjects.

Very little is heard here of the war going on in Madagascar, but the people of that populous island are fighting for the same principles which dominate the Cubans in their rebellion against the mother country. There is this difference, however: The Cubans are fighting to attain independence and liberty, while the people of Madagascar are striving to prevent the French from placing a yoke upon their country.

The other day a short paragraph was cabled to the papers in this country announcing in a few words the fact that the prime minister of Madagascar had put to death his five secretaries, because he suspected that they were betraying state secrets to the French. He did not accuse all of them of this crime, but he had facts to prove that one or two of them were guilty. It was impossible to fasten the crime upon any particular one, so he had all of them executed to make sure that the guilty ones were punished.

The prime minister is remarkable for many reasons. In the first place his name is Ratsirahon, which in itself is enough to make him famous in any land. But he also happens to be the husband of the queen of Madagascar, although he is an old man of 66 years, while she is but 35 and in the very flush of womanhood. But aside from these he has more legitimate claims upon fame. Of recent origin, he rapidly worked himself to the fore and has been the leading statesman of his country for more than a generation. He is the real leader of the nation, and has served as such under three queens. Today in Madagascar he is what Bismarck used to be to Germany and Gladstone in England.

A Curious Queen.

Madagascar is a curious mixture. The queen is a Christian, but she chews tobacco and expectorates in a silver vase. Her husband is very much of a Frenchman, but he wears a collar which he wears night and day, but if any native should happen to express a favorable opinion of the French in his presence, that native would very suddenly be wanted into a room. The queen has a fine big dog, plentifully embellished in gilt, at her side at all times, but she orders the execution of an enemy like another woman orders her breakfast.

All the Court Ladies Chew.

The queen is seldom without a large chunk of tobacco in her mouth, and as she sits the style in Madagascar, the court ladies, not to be outdone in the matter of fashion, also have large chunks of tobacco in their mouths. At a royal function where all the ladies are chewing tobacco industriously an American lady might be shocked. But the Madagascar ladies regard it as a rare accomplishment, and the society ladies there are taught to chew with the same ease that American parents teach their girls to dance or play upon the piano. It is one of the polite arts there, and a lady who does not chew is badly handicapped socially as a woman here who can't with her knife.

How the Queen Looks.

The Queen is called Ravalalona III. Her features cannot be called delicate, and in complexion she is pretty dark, much darker than most of her subjects. Her figure is above medium height. The dresses in European garments, and upon state occasions wears a robe of red velvet and a crown of gold. Her usual residence is not the enormous three-story palace Mola Kamlahana, built for Ravalalona I by a French architect, but a stone mansion hard by, called the Palace of Masandro, arranged in good taste and with proper regard to comfort.

Her husband is something of a Napoleon. He is small and lean and rich. His wavy hair bespeaks his humble origin. Under an air of good fellowship he conceals extreme energy, an iron will and much keenness of intellect. Withal he is an able politician. He lives in the Palace of Zanovola, called the Silver House, because when it was built for Prince Rakoto, son of a former queen, the prince caused it to be studded with silver nails and furnished with silver locks.

The premier king dresses plainly save on great occasions, when he wears a dolman of white satin, embroidered with gold, short trousers, ending in white stockings, with ribbon garters, great buckskins with very high heels, and suspended from his shoulder a cross belt, heavy with gold, which supports a sash, whose scabbard of black leather is encrusted with gold.

The cause of the war which France

is now waging against Madagascar is easily explained. The French are seeking to establish a protectorate over the whole island, with the ultimate design undoubtedly of annexing it outright. The Hovas deny that in the treaty of peace they signed with France in 1882, or in any other document, they ever gave France the right to assume a protectorate over the island. The overtures for peace in 1885 again and again broke down because the Hovas would not have the odious word in the treaty or anything

is there who cares to survive his country?"

A Troublesome War.

The French are not having an easy time of it, although the Hovas are poorly armed and lack the knowledge of modern warfare. In a regular battle the French would have little trouble in disposing of them, but the Hovas appreciate their weakness and refuse to allow the French to draw them into an open fight.

All of the rich cities of Madagascar



QUEEN RAVALLONA III.

that could be twisted to mean the surrender of the sovereign rights of the queen.

The treaty was accepted by the Malagasy only when the French government, eager to end the war in which Frenchmen had perished like sheep in the deadly climate of the coast and with a single advantage for their country, authorized the French plenipotentiary to dispense with the word "protectorate."

France was to represent Madagascar in her foreign relations, and the queen was to govern the whole island except a few small districts on the coast and the near-by islands which France had acquired from 1841 to 1885.

But France has chosen to treat her agreement with Madagascar as the thin edge of the wedge leading to a protectorate. Her resident at the capital has been accused of meddling with the queen's land expropriations and with criminal jurisdiction. The Hovas say he has put his finger into all sorts of domestic affairs, and he brought many French soldiers to the capital, though by the treaty he had a right to bring fifty soldiers and no more to guard the residency.

Matters went from bad to worse, and finally near the close of last year the resident demanded on behalf of France that Hovas should recognize the "protectorate" that the French should have the right to plant garrisons where they wished to do so, and that no concessions should be valid unless approved by the resident. The Hovas refused to yield these demands, the resident withdrew to French Anderson on the coast and the French began preparations for the war.

The Natives Adore Her.

The natives have the most absolute and abiding faith in their queen. The crafty prime minister nourishes and encourages this belief and to an outlandish power of the queen seems unlimited. But she is only the mouthpiece of her husband, and she carries out his ideas with an energy and dramatic power which evoke rare enthusiasm. She was crowned on her twentieth birthday, June 11, November 1882, and is not quite thirty-five years old. When the French made their first offensive moves the national assembly of the country was then in progress and the queen, under the direction of her husband, seized the opportunity to stir up patriotism among her subjects.

A Dramatic Speech.

On this occasion she stood up in the center of 50,000 of her subjects and waving a sword above her head declared that she would lead her soldiers to war against the French. Continuing she said: "We want peace with all the world. We love peace and hate war, but we will fight until we die to keep the land God gave us and our fathers preserved. The French are taking our land and our country, and to make us a part of themselves. Oh, the shame of it! We have fought no war with France, but we will fight till every home is burned and every man is perished before we will admit to such a disgrace. What Hova

SMALL FRUITS ON THE FARM.

How Not to Grow Them.

In closing an interesting bulletin on "Bush Fruits," William B. Alwood, the horticulturist of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, offers a few suggestions for the consideration of farmers.

The ordinary method, he says, of growing bush fruits in the farmer's garden, along the fence rows, or in situations where culture is quite impossible, is doubtless the worst sort of system ever devised; and the common prevalence of this no-system is probably largely responsible for the lack of interest in the culture of these very wholesome valuable fruits. They have from custom, generally been relegated to the fence row and out-of-the-way situations until most farmers have come to look upon them as unworthy of better treatment; and the fact that they have grown and borne fruit, after a fashion, even in these untoward situations, has encouraged, more or less, this slovenly method of culture.

If farmers, and every person who owns a small area of available ground, can once be brought to a realization of the food value and healthfulness of these fruits, and the ease and certainty with which they can be grown, doubtless the methods of culture complained of will be abandoned. Commercial growers have, of course, long since given to these fruits as good culture as to any general crop.

None of the bush fruits should ever be planted where they cannot be cultivated with care on both sides of the row, and to allow weeds and grass to grow up and choke them, is to invite disease and insect injury. For ease of cultivation the garden should be a long, rectangular plot of ground, and unless absolutely necessary, should not be fenced at all. Spongers or inter farmers will learn that all useless and unnecessary fences simply serve as harbors for vermin and insects without adding one dollar in value to the place. Fence the stock where it must be done, but let the plants have free air, sunlight and good culture.

STANDARD AND DWARF PEARS.

Both standard and dwarf pears are desirable for planting. The advantage with dwarf pears is that they come into bearing early and never attain a great size, hence are well adapted to planting where the ground is limited. Then they usually come into bearing so early, two or three years after planting out, that several crops may be secured before blight kills the trees. They are, however, not as long lived trees as the standards, and in one sense this is an objection as it necessitates replanting often. But it is a very small objection even on a small place, when it will be better to plant a few dwarf pear trees, the number being proportioned to the number of trees planted. Standard pears, if kept healthy are very long-lived and they will bear fruit a long time, but they are longer coming into bearing than the dwarf and need considerable more sun. When planted for family use two or three varieties can be planted to good advantage—an early, medium and late, in order to lengthen out the season.

AIM AT QUALITY.

Educate your fruit growers, your packers, your evaporators and your canners to aim at quality instead of mere quantity, says Colman's Rural World. Make the fruit both beautiful to the eye and delicious to the palate, and you need have no apprehension of the future of your fruit industry. I base this remark upon the apparent fact that a large proportion of the fruit growers, as well as some of the packers and canners, either lack the necessary knowledge or skill to secure the best results, or are ignorant of the fact that choice, delicious goods can generally be sold at a reasonable price, even when common market goods are beginning to fail. But this is not all. Every point of unsatisfactory fruit and every cup of sloshy, unripe fruit discourages the purchaser from duplicating his order, while every pound of defective grapes and every can of fine flavored apricots, pears and peaches, packed in good syrup, which the appetite for more, until the fruit and regular place on the table of the purchaser.

All Cream Tartar tested and found pure, before it is used in the making of the new High Grade Three Crown Baking Powder.

Three Gowns for the Autumn Girl.

The Newest Thing for Fall.

When the French first drew the relatives of the queen, from her oldest uncle to her latest nephew, his before her bearing spoons for preparing the traditional rice. Before the rice is presented the queen disappears behind a curtained screen, where a basin of warm water has been made ready and takes a bath. The cannon announce that the purification of the royal person is complete, and the queen, having dressed, returns to the throne. She bears now an ox horn filled with water from her bath. Having wet her fingers with the water she streaks her forehead with different caste marks, and, having sprinkled these round about, she solemnly eats several spoons full of rice, the first cooked in the country since the opening of the new year. This ends the official fete, but it is continued next day and for several days thereafter by the people throughout the country with various observances and much zeal. The queen lets loose in the streets of the capital half a dozen fat cattle, which are madly pursued by the people, the first man to catch before he will admit one of the beasts becoming its possessor.

A Forerunner.

Designed to Deceive.

Charles A. Collier.

President and Director-General of the Underlying a Citizen of Alaska.

Prof. H. J. Washington.

The Colored (orator) whose speech at the Opening Ceremonies created a wide sensation.

MISS PAULINE WHITNEY.

Her most recent picture.

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